

## **Minutes of the Executive Committee**

**11 June, 2012, at 10.00am**  
**at Fire Service Headquarters, Vauxhall Road, Birmingham**

**Present:** Councillor Edwards (Chair);  
Councillors Eustace (Vice-Chair);  
Chambers, Clinton, Davis, Douglas-Maul, Foster,  
Idrees and O'Neill.

**Observers:** Councillors Hogarth, Finnegan, Spence, Topliss,  
Turner and Walsh and Young.

**Apology:** Councillor Singh.

### **9/12 Minutes**

**Resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 2 March, 2012, be approved as a correct record.

### **10/12 Equality and Diversity Report and Objectives for 2012-2015**

The Committee noted the Service's Equality and Diversity Report and Objectives for 2012-2015. The Report detailed examples of the excellent work the Service had done to promote equality and diversity both within the Service and within the community and outlined the challenges and objectives for 2012-2015.

It was noted that it was proposed to establish a Scrutiny Committee at the annual meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2012, with terms of reference to oversee and monitor equality and diversity issues. The Committee was therefore minded to refer the report to the Scrutiny Committee for consideration in the 2012/2013 municipal year.

The Chief Fire Officer reported that the Authority had been successful in gaining the Investors in People Award. He also reported that the Service had been awarded the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA) Sector Award for Emergency Services. The award was prestigious and the Service had excelled above all other blue light services in the country. It brought further validation that the Service's

**Executive Committee**  
**11 June, 2012**

practices and procedures were efficient and that the management of health and safety within the organisation was of a high standard.

**Resolved** that the report be noted and referred to the Scrutiny Committee in the 2012/2013 municipal year.

**11/12 Exclusion of the Public and Press**

**Resolved** that the public and press be excluded from the rest of the meeting. This is to avoid the possible disclosure of exempt information under Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

**12/12 Update on the activities of West Midlands Fire Service Business Safety Limited**

The Committee noted an update on the activities of WMFS Business Safety Limited since its inception in February, 2012.

The Company's Board of Directors had considered a number of business opportunities to explore, as well as an ethical framework for the Company. The Board had also noted that the Service would be refreshing its internet page in June 2012 and would be using this platform to advertise itself. The Board would be considering the Company's pricing strategy at future meetings.

It was noted that an opportunity had arisen for the Company to provide specialist fire engineering advice to the commercial sector and work was being undertaken to progress this. The Committee noted the legal implications in providing such a service and the potential risks.

**Resolved** that approval be given for West Midlands Fire Service Business Safety Limited to trade in the provision of fire engineering advice.

**Executive Committee**  
**11 June, 2012**

**13/12    Planned Procurement Exercise for 2012/2013**

Approval was sought to proceed with a tendering exercise for the procurement of a Reactive Repairs Framework for the Authority's properties. The Committee noted the detail and estimated costs of the proposed contract.

**Resolved** that approval be given to proceed with a tendering exercise for the provision of a Reactive Repairs Framework in 2012/2013.

(Meeting ended at 10.28 am)

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Contact Officer: Stephnie Hancock Democratic Services Unit Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council 0121 569 3189</i></p>
--